IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors:

Pope et al.

Title:

Prosthetic Knee Joint Having at Least One Diamond Articulation Surface

January 30, 2000

Filed:

Serial No.:

09/494,278

Docket:

6061 P

Examiner:

Isabella

GAU:

3738

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231



Response to Office Action

Honorable Assistant Commissioner:

This paper is intended to be fully responsive to the office action mailed on October 23. 2001.

In the office action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement directing the applicant to restrict the claims to a single species. The Examiner identified the species as follows:

Group I:

claims 1-67.

Group II:

claims 68-100.

Applicant elects Group I (claims 1-67) without traverse. To the extent that the Examiner requires, Applicant further elects the sub-species including a mechanical grip between the diamond table and the substrate. Claims in Group I reading on this feature are claims 1-28, 33, 34, 60, 61, and 63-65.

Amendment

Please cancel claims 68-100 without prejudice.

Remarks

Applicant believes this is fully responsive to the office action.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of October, 2001.

Daniel McCarthy Reg. No. 36,600

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JAN 15 2002

Certificate of Mailing

Honorable Assistant Commissioner:

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Office Action us being submitted via fist class mail with the United States Postal Service in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to "Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231" on October 29, 2001.

Daniel McCarthy Reg. No. 36,600

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